12/15/82 R9375-1 A

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

U.S. Travel Data Center

December, 1982 Volume 11, Number 12

VOLUME OF FOREIGN VISITORS DECLINES

Preliminary estimates for the first nine months of 1982 indicate the volume of foreign visitors to the U.S. is down 9 percent from last year. According to research released by the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration (USTTA), 1982 will probably register the first overall decline in in-bound travel in two decades.

The volume of travel from Canada, Mexico, Europe and South America all posted declines. Visitor volume from Mexico fell 41 percent in the third quarter alone, as the drastic drop in the value of the peso priced U.S. travel out of the reach of most Mexican residents. Travel to the U.S. from Europe is down 12 percent, led by the United Kingdom with a 20 percent drop.

Among leading suppliers of in-bound travel, only Japan and Venezuela showed increases, up 2 percent and 4 percent, respectively, for the nine month period. "Other areas," including Africa and the Middle East, also showed a 3 percent increase.

The data indicate all areas weakened in the third quarter, with total visitor volume down 12 percent compared to 6 percent for the first six months.

The depressed travel activity may continue. Many analysts believe the dollar will remain strong against most major foreign currencies over the next several years. The political and financial stability of the U.S. relative to other major countries and our greater success in reducing inflation can continue to keep the dollar priced high in international exchange markets. If this is true, we can expect to see the current downward trend in foreign visitation continue over the next year or so.

For a copy of USTTA's analysis of the first three quarters of 1982, contact Don Wynegar, director-office of research, 202/377-4028. # #

RECESSION CAUSES DECLINE IN WORLDWIDE OCCUPANCY

Hotels were hit hard by the recession in 1981 as room occupancy declined for the second straight year and net income was off a staggering 22 percent, according to Worldwide Lodging Industry 1982.

Copies of the Worldwide Lodging Industry 1982 are available ($35 per copy) from the Director of Publications, Laventhol & Horwath, 1845 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Telephone (215) 299-1553. # #

FORUM PRESENTS "TRAVEL MARKETING IN THE COMING RECOVERY"

Travel marketing and research executives are coming from all over the United States on December 9, 1982, to attend the eighth annual Travel Outlook Forum at the Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Focusing on travel marketing in the coming recovery, the general morning session will present the outlook for the economy, consumer views on the coming recovery, travel trends in 1982, and the outlook for international visitation.

Panels of industry experts will discuss the outlook for air transportation, surface transportation, accommodations, and recreation and attractions in the afternoon.

The complete transcript of the forum will be available in 1983. For further information, contact Ida Simmons, manager of communications, U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Phone (202) 293-1040. # #

TRAVEL PRICE INDEX DECLINES IN OCTOBER

Considerable declines in the cost of both gasoline and lodging while out of town caused a 0.2 percent drop in the cost of travel in the U.S. as measured by the U.S. Travel Data Center's Travel Price Index (TPI).

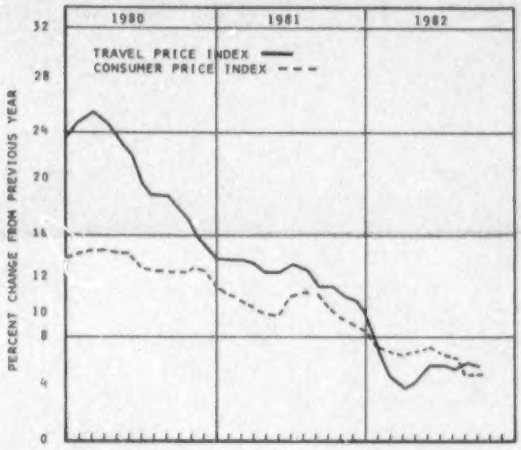
For comparison, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 0.3 percent on a seasonally unadjusted basis in October.

The TPI, which measures changes in the seasonally unadjusted cost of lodging, food, transportation and other goods and services purchased by Americans traveling away from home in this country stood at 344.5 in October (1967=100).

The cost of lodging while out of town fell 1.4 percent, and gasoline prices fell 0.9 percent, spurring a decrease in the TPI.

Airline fares rose 1.0 percent, the largest increase among all components, followed closely by the cost of entertainment services which rose 0.9 percent.

The TPI has increased 5.4 percent since October 1981, compared to a 5.1 percent rise in the CPI during the same period. Over the past twelve months, airline fares have increased 11.2 percent, leading all TPI components, followed by the cost of lodging while out of town with a 10.4 percent increase. # #



INCREASE IN CONSUMER PRICES FALLS BELOW TRAVEL PRICE INDEX

Monthly and Annual Rates of Change in the Travel Price Index and Components, October, 1982

TPI Component	Monthly Percent Change September, 1982 to October, 1982	Annual Percent Change October, 1981 to October, 1982
Transportation	0.1	2.7
Airline Fares	1.0	11.2
Intercity Bus Fares	0.5	2.6
Intercity Train Fares	0.0	7.4
Taxicab Fares	0.1	3.8
Gasoline	-0.9	-4.7
Lodging	-1.4	10.4
Food Away From Home	0.3	4.9
Entertainment Services	0.9	7.3
Incidentals	0.6	4.3
TRAVEL PRICE INDEX	-0.2	5.4
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	0.3	5.1

Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

TRAVEL PRINTOUT is published monthly by the U.S. Travel Data Center, the national non-profit center for travel and tourism research, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone number, (202) 293-1040. Dr. Douglas C. Frechtling, Director. Ida Simmons, Editor. TRAVEL PRINTOUT reports on the results of Data Center projects, national travel research conducted by other respected organizations, and trends in the U.S. travel industry. Subscriptions are available for $40 per year, U.S., Canada, and Mexico; other foreign countries, $50 per year, payable in U.S. funds only. TRAVEL PRINTOUT is supported by a grant from the Travel Industry Association of America.
Application to mail at 2nd Class postage rates pending at Washington, D.C. Postmaster: Send address changes to U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

TRAVEL VOLUME INCREASES 1 PERCENT IN SEPTEMBER

Americans are still cautious about traveling. According to the U.S. Travel Data Center's National Travel Survey, travel increased by only one percent in September when compared to travel during the same month one year ago.

Trips taken for personal and "other" purposes dropped substantially, causing the lull for the month. However, pleasure travel posted a 13 percent increase followed by a 10 percent increase in business and convention travel.

The monthly telephone survey reported that trips increased in both distance and duration over one year ago. The average distance grew from 680 to 780 round-trip miles while travelers averaged 5.0 nights per trip, up from 4.3 nights the previous September.

Travel by air increased 7 percent while use of other common carriers dropped off significantly. Travel by personal motor vehicle grew 2 percent.

Underscoring Americans' reluctance to travel in the face of uncertainty about the economy, the survey reported a continued decline in vacation planning begun in May 1982. Four percent fewer Americans plan to take a vacation trip in the next six months. Holiday travel may be lighter than last year as the survey reported an even larger decline in intentions to travel during November and December.

The National Travel Survey is a monthly telephone survey of over 1,400 American adults. Results are projectable to the nation.

The National Travel Survey monthly reports are available to subscribers only. Subscriptions are now available for 1983. For a prospectus and further information about new features of the National Travel Survey, contact Suzanne Cook, manager of survey research, U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone 202/293-1040. # #

BRIEFS

Data Center director Douglas Frechtling presented a summary of the Data Center's annual Economic Review of Travel in America to the 71st annual convention of the American Hotel and Motel Association in Vancouver, British Columbia, last month.

# #

The following figure for August was unavailable at presstime for the November issue: August intercity bus passenger-miles was 3.2 billion.

VISITOR VOLUME AT NATIONAL PARKS

Region	September, 1982 visits[1] (thousands)	Change from August, 1982 (percent)	Change from September, 1981 (percent)	1982/81 Year-to date (percent)
New England	1,246.8	-24.6%	-3.3%	-9.0%
Eastern Gateway	1,490.9	-54.3	2.5	1.4
G. Washington County	9,432.1	-14.3	-1.9	- .8
The South	8,401.7	-15.3	6.6	-*
Great Lakes County	579.5	-45.9	2.1	2.2
Mountain West	2,884.8	-46.6	-9.2	-3.9
Frontier West	2,058.6	-37.0	14.1	27.4
Far West	4,594.4	-27.5	-13.2	-2.2
The Islands	579.2	-9.4	12.4	18.5
TOTAL	31,268.0	-26.5%	-1.0%	3.6%

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service.
*Less than 0.5 percent.

States comprising the travel regions:

NEW ENGLAND: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont. EASTERN GATEWAY: New York, New Jersey. GEORGE WASHINGTON COUNTRY: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia. SOUTH: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee. GREAT LAKES COUNTRY: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin. MOUNTAIN WEST: Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming. FRONTIER WEST: Arizona, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas. FAR WEST: Alaska, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington. THE ISLANDS: American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands.

CURRENT TRAVEL INDICATORS	September, 1982	% Change from August, 1982	% Change from September, 1981	Year-to-date % Change 1982/1981
Establishment receipts or retail sales[1]				
Eating and drinking places	$8,772 million	-0.1	9.8	8.7
Gasoline service stations	$8,092 million	-0.6	-5.4	-3.7
Commercial lodging demand				
Hotel/motel occupancy rate[2]	63.3 percent	-8.5	-7.0	-4.5
Airline passenger traffic[3]				
Domestic revenue passenger-miles	13.2 billion	-22.4	1.2	3.3
International revenue passenger-miles	4.1 billion	-18.0	-3.2	-3.9
Bus passenger traffic[4]				
Intercity bus passenger-miles	2.4 billion	-24.5	6.7	0.9
Highway traffic volume[5]				
Rural arterial vehicle-miles	36.5 billion	-12.0	2.2	1.7
Rail passenger traffic[6]				
Amtrak passenger-miles	306.5 million	37.1	-13.7	-13.3
Travel Price Index[7]	345.2	0.6	5.6	5.7
U.S. resident travel[8]				
Total person-trips	95.6 million	-34.5	1.1	-5.7
Vacation person-trips	56.8 million	-46.6	-6.4	-9.3
Public use of National Parks[9]				
Visits	31,269,500	-32.8	-2.7	1.4
Overnight stays	2,049,000	-38.4	4.9	1.4
Foreign arrivals in U.S.[10]				
From overseas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
From Canada	864,896	-40.0	-1.4	-5.5
U.S. citizen departures[10]				
To overseas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
To Canada	1,154,919	-47.9	-2.2	-4.5
Domestic demand for motor gasoline[11]				
Barrels per day	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for seasonal variation and trading day differences. Source: Bureau of the Census. [2]Source: Laventhol and Horwath, seasonally adjusted. [3]Preliminary; U.S. scheduled service air carriers. Source: Civil Aeronautics Board. [4]All carriers regular route and charter service. Source: American Bus Association. [5]Source: Federal Highway Administration. [6]Source: National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). [7]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and Bureau of Labor Statistics. [8]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center. [9]Preliminary; unadjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service. [10]Source: U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration and Nettelton Travel Research Center. [11]Preliminary; Source: U.S. Department of Energy.

U.S. Travel Data Center

1899
L Street
Northwest
Washington, D.C.
20036
(202) 293-1040

SECOND CLASS
POSTAGE
PENDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

December, 1982

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

00072 TDC 8306
Jeanne Long, SRI A-E
Congressional Information Service
4520 East West Highway, #800
Bethesda, MD 20814

1/26/83 K9375-1

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

U.S. Travel Data Center

January, 1983 Volume 12, Number 1

CONFERENCE FINDS TOURISM PROSPECTS IMPROVED FOR 1983

Pronouncing 1982 "a prologue to recovery", the eighth annual Travel Outlook Forum last week at the Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C., reviewed travel during 1982 and looked toward 1983.

Douglas Frechtling, director of the U.S. Travel Data Center elaborated, "Travel activity was disappointing in 1982. The number of trips declined 6 percent in the first nine months, and travel receipts increased only 1.8 percent in real dollars, well below historical levels."

Turning to 1983, Frechtling sounded an optimistic note as he reviewed the recent results of the Data Center's monthly telephone National Travel Survey. "Overall, travel strengthened in July, and actually exceeded August and September rates of one year ago. Business travel, though off 2 percent for the year, held up surprisingly well considering the depth of the recession. This travel actually outpaced 1981 for the last 4 months."

Joseph Duncan, corporate economist and chief statistician of Dun and Bradstreet, also presented an optimistic outlook for the economy. He predicted that real GNP would be up 4 to 5 percent in the first half of 1983 and grow at 4 percent for the second half of the year. However, he cautioned, high federal deficits could cause an increase in interest rates, and the weak international economy coupled with a strong U.S. dollar may cause weakened demand for U.S. products.

Richard Curtin, director of Surveys of Consumer Attitudes of the University of Michigan, forecast a modest improvement in consumer spending in 1983. Although 41 percent of surveyed consumers reported a worsening of their financial situation in the third quarter of this year, they expect business conditions to improve, and their own with it. However, Curtin added, purchases of houses and vehicles rather than travel and vacations can be expected. Curtin also noted that businesses have become more frugal with travel budgets, a trend that will continue.

On the international scene, Don Wynegar, director of the office of research of the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration, reported a decline of 9 percent in foreign visitation in 1982 (the first drop in inbound tourism in 20 years). U.S. travel abroad declined 1 percent. Wynegar predicted about the same number of foreign arrivals in 1983 and said that 4 percent more Americans will go abroad than last year.

Karen Rubin, senior editor of Travel Agent Magazine, advised that the 25-to-35 age group will offer the greatest potential to travel marketers. She reasoned that because this group, which comprises 17 percent of the population, has a large number of dual-income households and is postponing child-rearing until the late thirties, it has more discretionary income than other age groups. However, she cautioned, in this age group, travel competes with a home and automobile for discretionary dollars.

Luncheon speaker, U.S. Representative William Boner, secretary-treasurer of the Congressional Tourism Caucus, was sponsored by the Travel Industry Association of America. He cited the National

(Continued on page 3)

The closing date to add questions to the March wave of the National Travel Survey (NTS), covering travel in January, is February 4, 1983. To add questions or obtain a prospectus describing the NTS, call or write Suzanne Cook at the U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. 202/293-1040 # #

NOVEMBER TRAVEL PRICES POST RECORD-BREAKING DECLINE

Posting the greatest decline in its 14 years on record, the cost of travel in the U.S. as measured by U.S. Travel Data Center's Travel Price Index (TPI) fell 0.6 percent in November.

For comparison, the Consumer Price Index (CPi) fell 0.2 percent on a seasonally unadjusted basis in November 1982.

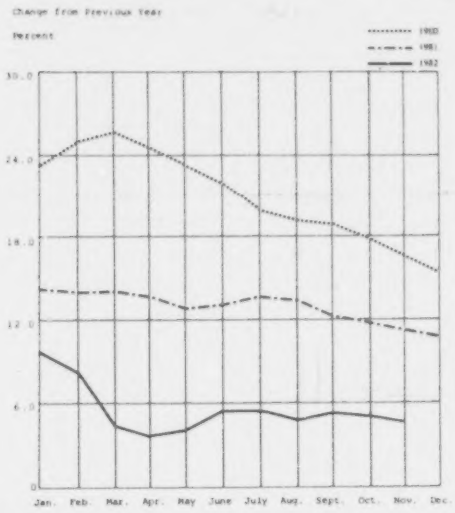
The TPI, which measures changes in the seasonally unadjusted cost of lodging, food, transportation and other goods and services purchased by Americans traveling away from home in this country stood at 342.5 in November (1967=100).

Falling prices of four TPI components led to the record-breaking decline. The cost of lodging while out of town dropped 1.8 percent, and gasoline prices fell 0.6 percent. Airline fares and the cost of incidental purchases also showed signifcant declines.

The cost of intercity rail fares showed the largest monthly increase, 2.9 percent. The TPI has increased 4.9 percent since November 1981, somewhat more than the 4.6 percent growth in the CPI same period. The cost of lodging while out of town has increased 10.4 percent over the past twelve months, the greatest increase of all TPI components.

Gasoline prices are 5.2 percent below last November's level, falling the last four consecutive months. # #

Travel Prices Rose 5.6% Over 1981 Average



Monthly and Annual Rates of Change in the Travel Price Index and Components, November, 1982

TPI Component	Monthly Percent Change October, 1982 to November, 1982	Annual Percent Change November, 1981 to November, 1982
Transportation	-0.4	2.0
Airline Fares	-0.5	9.9
Intercity Bus Fares	0.9	3.2
Intercity Train Fares	2.9	9.1
Taxicab Fares	0.1	3.2
Gasoline	-0.6	-5.2
Lodging	-1.8	10.4
Food Away From Home	0.2	4.8
Entertainment Services	0.4	7.2
Incidentals	-0.4	3.6
TRAVEL PRICE INDEX	-0.6	4.9
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	-0.2	4.6

Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

TRAVEL PRINTOUT is published monthly by the U.S. Travel Data Center, the national non-profit center for travel and tourism research, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone number, (202) 293-1040. Dr. Douglas C. Frechtling, Director. Ida Simmons, Editor. TRAVEL PRINTOUT reports on the results of Data Center projects, national travel research conducted by other respected organizations, and trends in the U.S. travel industry. Subscriptions are available for $40 per year, U.S., Canada, and Mexico; other foreign countries, $50 per year, payable in U.S. funds only. TRAVEL PRINTOUT is supported by a grant from the Travel Industry Association of America.
Application to mail at 2nd Class postage rates pending at Washington, D.C. Postmaster: Send address changes to U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

1983 TRAVEL OUTLOOK (CONTINUED)

Tourism Policy Act as the most significant accomplishment in 1982. Optimistic in his outlook for 1983, Boner noted that the U.S. is tapping only 10 percent of the international travel market. However, he cited three obstacles to developing this market: first, long customs lines which greet the foreign visitor; second, limitations in tax deductibility of travel and entertainment expenses; and third, attempts to budget no funds for the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration in 1984.

The 1983 Travel Outlook Forum also presented panels of experts who discussed the outlook for various travel industry segments. Among their findings:

- although travel by personal motor vehicle is up, trips are closer to home and frequently to recreational attractions;
- in the intercity bus industry, regular route travel is down and net income is 50 percent below that of last year. However, tour and charter bus ridership is up 5 percent;
- Amtrak revenues increased 10 percent over 1981; however, ridership was down 8 percent;
- the major airlines lost $200 million in 1982 and estimated that 75 percent of all passengers traveled at discount fares;
- confusion of over air fare changes will cause more travelers to turn to travel agents in the coming year;
- the foodservice industry recorded a slightly more than one percent real growth in sales in 1982;
- lodging industry predictions for 1983: 11.3 percent increase in total receipts, 2.6 percent increase in occupancy, and 7.7 percent increase in room rates over 1982;
- in the cruise industry, passenger volume reached an all-time high in 1982 and has a promising outlook for 1983;
- the panel on recreation and attractions concluded that 1983 would be "flat."

The 1983 Travel Outlook Forum brought together over 250 travel industry executives from across the U.S. and 12 foreign countries, the largest audience in the seminar's eight years.

Complete proceedings of the forum will be released in January and will be available as the 1983 Outlook for Travel and Tourism for $70.00 prepaid from the U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. # #

VISITOR VOLUME AT NATIONAL PARKS

Region	October, 1982 visits[1] (thousands)	Change from September, 1982 (percent)	Change from October, 1981 (percent)	1982/81 Year-to-date (percent)
New England	1,201.9	2.0%	17.4%	-6.5%
Eastern Gateway	846.3	-40.0	12.0	2.0
G. Washington Country	8,505.6	-3.1	2.0	-0.6
The South	8,045.9	12.8	1.6	-*
Great Lakes Country	447.0	-22.9	14.8	3.2
Mountain West	1,238.8	-5.2	-4.5	-3.9
Frontier West	1,722.6	-16.3	11.0	26.2
Far West	3,439.7	-25.2	-0.5	-2.0
The Islands	574.7	-0.8	20.8	18.7
TOTAL	26,022.5	- 9.7%	3.2%	4.0%

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service.
*Less than 0.5 percent.

States comprising the travel regions:

NEW ENGLAND: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont. EASTERN GATEWAY: New York, New Jersey. GEORGE WASHINGTON COUNTRY: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia. SOUTH: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee. GREAT LAKES COUNTRY: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin. MOUNTAIN WEST: Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming. FRONTIER WEST: Arizona, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas. FAR WEST: Alaska, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington. THE ISLANDS: American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands.

CURRENT TRAVEL INDICATORS	October, 1982	% Change from September, 1982	% Change from October, 1981	Year-to-date % Change 1982/1981
Establishment receipts or retail sales[1]				
Eating and drinking places	$8,914 million	2.5	11.4	8.9
Gasoline service stations	$8,143 million	-0.4	-4.3	-3.6
Commercial lodging demand				
Hotel/motel occupancy rate[2]	67.5 percent	6.6	-5.6	-4.6
Airline passenger traffic[3]				
Domestic revenue passenger-miles	14.3 billion	8.2	3.7	3.4
International revenue passenger-miles	3.9 billion	-5.0	-0.5	-3.6
Bus passenger traffic[4]				
Intercity bus passenger-miles	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Highway traffic volume[5]				
Rural arterial vehicle-miles	36.6 billion	0.1	3.3	1.9
Rail passenger traffic[6]				
Amtrak passenger-miles	318.4 million	3.9	5.3	-11.9
Travel Price Index[7]	344.5	-0.2	5.4	5.7
U.S. resident travel[8]				
Total person-trips	84.0 million	-12.1	-21.9	-7.5
Vacation person-trips	51.3 million	-9.7	-19.1	-10.3
Public use of National Parks[9]				
Visits	25,940,900	-17.0	-3.5	1.2
Overnight stays	994,600	-51.5	0.5	-0.9
Foreign arrivals in U.S.[10]				
From overseas	777,867	-12.5	-6.2	-5.0
From Canada	612,598	-29.2	-21.1	-6.7
U.S. citizen departures[10]				
To overseas	626,232	-22.1	0.0	4.3
To Canada	710,306	-38.5	0.1	-4.2
Domestic demand for motor gasoline[11]				
Barrels per day	6,500 thousand	0.9	-1.2	-1.0

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for seasonal variation and trading day differences. Source: Bureau of the Census. [2]Source: Laventhol and Horwath, seasonally adjusted. [3]Preliminary; U.S. scheduled service air carriers. Source: Civil Aeronautics Board. [4]All carriers regular route and charter service. Source: American Bus Association. [5]Source: Federal Highway Administration. [6]Source: National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). [7]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and Bureau of Labor Statistics. [8]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center. [9]Preliminary; unadjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service. [10]Source: U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration and Nettelton Travel Research Center. [11]Preliminary; Source: U.S. Department of Energy.

U.S. Travel Data Center

1899
L Street
Northwest
Washington, D.C.
20036
(202) 293-1040

SECOND CLASS
POSTAGE
PENDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

January, 1983

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

00072 TDC 8306
Jeanne Long, SRI A-E
Congressional Information Service
4520 East West Highway, #800
Bethesda, MD 20814

3/1/83 K9375-1A

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

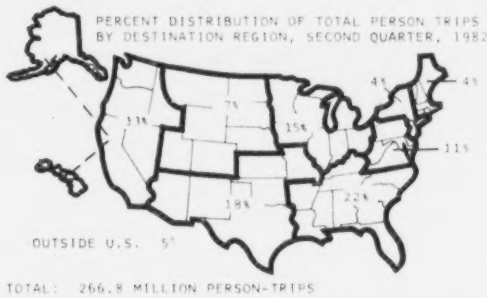
U.S. Travel Data Center

February, 1983 Volume 12, Number 2

TRAVEL FALLS 14 PERCENT IN SECOND QUARTER, 1982

The depressing effects of continuing recession remained unabated in the second quarter of 1982 as growing fears about job and income losses reduced travel demands and dampened plans for the coming summer, according to the U.S. Travel Data Center's 1982 National Travel Survey Second Quarter Report.

Americans took 267 million person-trips during the three-month period, a 14 percent decline from one year earlier. (A person-trip is recorded each time a person goes on a trip 100 miles or more away from home.)



Although showing a decline in visitation, The South remained the number one destination of travelers this quarter.

The overall decline centered around pleasure and vacation travel which fell 15 percent below year-earlier levels. However, business/convention travel, according to the survey report, fell less than one percent while in the depths of the recession.

During the second quarter of 1982, Americans traveled in larger parties, more frequently with their children, and relied more on the hospitality of friends and relatives. Trip distances were somewhat longer, 760 round-trip miles, but travelers stayed away fewer nights than one year ago.

Americans from upper income households, least affected by the eroding effects of the recession, continued to travel at levels almost as high as in 1981.

The introduction of several new discount fares during the second quarter offset the effects of declining demand on the airline industry, as trips by air rose 2 percent while trips by personal motor vehicle declined 13 percent.

The 1982 National Travel Survey Second Quarter Report is based on telephone interviews with over 1,400 adult Americans each month. It includes over 100 pages of tables, charts, analysis, and comparisons with 1981. It is being sent to members of the Data Center and is available for $60.00 prepaid from the U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. # #

STATE WORLD'S FAIR OFFICIAL NAMED DATA CENTER CHAIRMAN

Bob LeBlanc, executive director of the Louisiana Exhibition Authority, 1984 World's Fair, was elected chairman of the U.S. Travel Data Center Board of Trustees in December.

Other officers elected by the Data Center trustees are Bob Gall, vice president-transportation marketing, Amtrak, as vice chairman; Charles R. Goeldner, director, Business Research Division, University of Colorado, as secretary; William D. Toohey, president, Travel Industry Association of America, as treasurer; and Douglas C. Frechtling as director.

Newly elected members of the board of trustees are Skip Becker, director, Pennsylvania Bureau of Travel Development; Jesse Liebman, staff vice-president planning and forecasts, Trans World Airlines; Bob Richards, executive vice president, American Hotel and Motel Association; and Robert Uguccioni, execu-

(See BOARD, page 3)

DECEMBER TRAVEL PRICES CONTINUE RECORD-BREAKING DECLINE

The cost of travel in the U.S. during December fell a record 0.9 percent, breaking the record 0.6 percent decrease set just last month, according to the U.S. Travel Data Center's Travel Price Index (TPI).

For comparison, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) fell 0.4 percent on a seasonally unadjusted basis in December 1982.

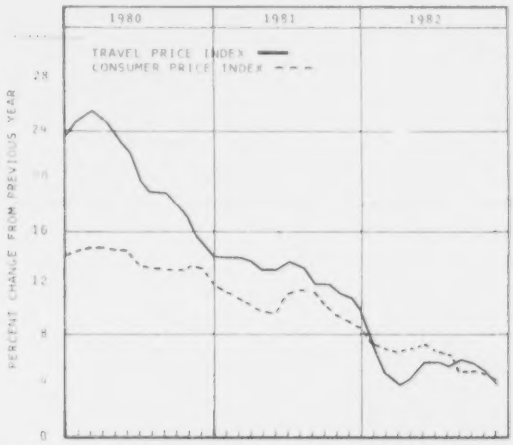
The TPI, which measures changes in the seasonally unadjusted cost of lodging, food, transportation and other goods and services purchased by Americans traveling away from home in this country stood at 339.3 in December (1967=100).

Large decreases in the prices of three TPI components contributed to the record decline. The cost of lodging while out of town fell 2.2 percent, gasoline prices dropped 1.8 percent, and airline fares dropped 0.7 percent.

The cost of intercity bus fares showed the largest monthly increase, 1.0 percent.

The TPI has increased only 3.8 percent since December 1981, slightly less than the 3.9 percent growth in the CPI over the same period. Intercity rail fares have increased 10.1 percent during the past twelve months, the largest increase of all TPI components.

Gasoline prices are actually 6.6 percent below last December's level, following consecutive declines in the last five months. # #



INFLATION IN TRAVEL AND CONSUMER PRICES CONTINUES TO DECLINE.

Monthly and Annual Rates of Change in the Travel Price Index and Components, November, 1982

TPI Component	Monthly Percent Change November, 1982 to December, 1982	Annual Percent Change December, 1981 to December, 1982
Transportation	-1.1	0.9
Airline Fares	-0.7	9.1
Intercity Bus Fares	1.0	3.4
Intercity Train Fares	0.9	10.1
Taxicab Fares	0.1	2.1
Gasoline	-1.8	-6.6
Lodging	-2.2	7.4
Food Away From Home	0.4	5.0
Entertainment Services	0.0	6.8
Incidentals	-0.3	3.4
TRAVEL PRICE INDEX	-0.9	3.8
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	-0.4	3.9

Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

TRAVEL PRINTOUT is published monthly by the U.S. Travel Data Center, the national non-profit center for travel and tourism research, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone number, (202) 293-1040. Dr. Douglas C. Frechtling, Director. Ida Simmons, Editor. TRAVEL PRINTOUT reports on the results of Data Center projects, national travel research conducted by other respected organizations, and trends in the U.S. travel industry. Subscriptions are available for $40 per year, U.S., Canada, and Mexico; other foreign countries, $50 per year, payable in U.S. funds only. TRAVEL PRINTOUT is supported by a grant from the Travel Industry Association of America.
Application to mail at 2nd Class postage rates pending at Washington, D.C. Postmaster: Send address changes to U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

TRAVEL FALLS AGAIN IN OCTOBER

Following small gains in late summer and early fall, the volume of travel plummeted 16 percent in October, as compared to one year ago when travel activity was particularly strong, according to the U.S. Travel Data Center's National Travel Survey.

Business travel, including conventions declined 19 percent after showing surprising strength in the June - September months. Vacationers cut back some what less but still reported 13 percent fewer person-trips than in October of 1981. (A person-trip is recorded each time a person goes on a trip 100 miles or more away from home.)

The monthly telephone survey reported shorter distances and longer durations for most types of travel. However, business/convention and air travelers reported substantially longer distances and more person-nights than one year ago.

Americans continue to be reluctant to travel as vacation planning declined for the sixth consecutive month. The October survey reported that 7 percent fewer Americans are now planning to take a vacation in the next six months. Among those who are planning such trips, moreover, interest in auto/truck/RV travel is stronger than for air. # #

BOARD (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

cutive director, Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau, Inc.

Dick Ashman, corporate vice president-government and industry relations, Holiday Inns, Inc., was elected for another two-year term. # #

DATA CENTER APPOINTS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The U.S. Travel Data Center recently announced that Suzanne D. Cook has been promoted to assistant director.

For the past five years, Ms. Cook has served as manager of survey research for the private, non-profit research center. Previously, she was senior project director for the Arbitron Company, a broadcasting research firm.

Ms. Cook will continue to be responsible for all market and survey research conducted by the Data Center, including the monthly National Travel Survey, now in its fourth year. She will also supervise the International Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus 1983-84 Convention Income Survey, to begin later this year. # #

VISITOR VOLUME AT NATIONAL PARKS

Region	November, 1982 visits[1] (thousands)	Change from October, 1982 (percent)	Change from November, 1981 (percent)	1982/81 Year-to date (percent)
New England	606.7	-49.5%	12.5%	-5.6%
Eastern Gateway	412.2	-51.3	12.4	2.2
G. Washington Country	7,349.3	-13.5	9.9	*
The South	6,619.3	-32.2	14.2	-1.0
Great Lakes Country	154.9	-65.3	4.8	3.2
Mountain West	608.4	-52.3	-6.2	-4.0
Frontier West	1,216.5	-29.4	7.3	25.2
Far West	2,752.9	-20.0	-*	-1.9
The Islands	534.3	-7.0	16.2	18.5
TOTAL	20,254.5	-26.7%	9.2%	4.0%

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service.
*Less than 0.5 percent.

States comprising the travel regions:

NEW ENGLAND: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont. EASTERN GATEWAY: New York, New Jersey. GEORGE WASHINGTON COUNTRY: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia. SOUTH: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee. GREAT LAKES COUNTRY: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin. MOUNTAIN WEST: Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming. FRONTIER WEST: Arizona, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas. FAR WEST: Alaska, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington. THE ISLANDS: American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands.

CURRENT TRAVEL INDICATORS	November, 1982	% Change from October, 1982	% Change from November, 1981	Year-to-date % Change 1982/1981
Establishment receipts or retail sales[1]				
Eating and drinking places	$9,106 million	0.6	14.8	9.6
Gasoline service stations	$8,269 million	0.8	-3.1	-3.5
Commercial lodging demand				
Hotel/motel occupancy rate[2]	59.3 percent	-12.1	-3.3	-4.5
Airline passenger traffic[3]				
Domestic revenue passenger-miles	13.5 billion	-5.2	6.6	3.6
International revenue passenger-miles	3.0 billion	-22.8	-5.3	-3.6
Bus passenger traffic[4]				
Intercity bus passenger-miles	2.0 billion	-19.8	4.7	1.7
Highway traffic volume[5]				
Rural arterial vehicle-miles	33.5 billion	-8.5	2.0	1.9
Rail passenger traffic[6]				
Amtrak passenger-miles	267.0 million	-16.1	-8.4	-11.6
Travel Price Index[7]	342.5	-0.6	4.9	5.6
U.S. resident travel[8]				
Total person-trips	84.8 million	1.0	-15.5	-7.6
Vacation person-trips	48.8 million	-5.1	-23.0	-10.9
Public use of National Parks[9]				
Visits	20,255,300	-21.9	9.0	1.4
Overnight stays	576,100	-42.1	4.6	-0.5
Foreign arrivals in U.S.[10]				
From overseas	640,884	-17.6	-6.4	-5.1
From Canada	592,666	-3.3	-4.8	-6.6
U.S. citizen departures[10]				
To overseas	501,456	-19.9	-1.8	3.9
To Canada	411,728	-42.0	-2.5	-4.2
Domestic demand for motor gasoline[11]				
Barrels per day	6,448 thousand	0.9	1.1	-0.7

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for seasonal variation and trading day differences. Source: Bureau of the Census. [2]Source: Laventhol and Horwath, seasonally adjusted. [3]Preliminary; U.S. scheduled service air carriers. Source: Civil Aeronautics Board. [4]All carriers regular route and charter service. Source: American Bus Association. [5]Source: Federal Highway Administration. [6]Source: National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). [7]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and Bureau of Labor Statistics. [8]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center. [9]Preliminary; unadjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service. [10]Source: U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration and Nettelton Travel Research Center. [11]Preliminary; Source: U.S. Department of Energy.

U.S. Travel Data Center

1899
L Street
Northwest
Washington, D.C.
20036
(202) 293-1040

SECOND CLASS
POSTAGE
PENDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

February, 1983

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

00072 TDC 8306
Jeanne Long, SRI A-E
Congressional Information Service
4520 East West Highway, #800
Bethesda, MD 20814

4/14/83 R9375-1

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

U.S. Travel Data Center

March, 1983 Volume 12, Number 3

TOURISM FORECASTERS LOOK TO RECOVERY

A substantial economic recovery and pent-up consumer demand for travel will combine to produce a strong upturn in travel away from home in 1983, conclude industry authorities in the 1983 Outlook for Travel and Tourism, released today by the U.S. Travel Data Center.

Containing forecasts by industry experts presented to the 1983 Travel Outlook Forum held in Washington in December, the report pronounced 1982 a "prologue to recovery," and predicted favorable increases in auto rental, lodging, foodservice, and auto and air travel in the coming year. Forecasters cautioned, however, that the extent of these increases will depend on the timing and strength of the economic recovery.

"Over the past year or so, Americans postponed many of their vacation trips until economic times improved," Dr. Douglas C. Frechtling, Director of the U.S. Travel Data Center, noted. "Economic growth projected for 1983 will remove many of the barriers to increased travel and tourism as consumers' confidence in their economic future increases."

Trends cited in the outlook for 1983 include:

1) a more educated consumer, shopping for the most value for the travel dollar;

2) increasing segmentation of the travel market and more aggressive marketing among competitors;

3) new and varied techniques to cut costs and to improve appeal to specific travel market segments.

The outlook for 1983 varied widely among the sectors of the travel industry. Foreign visitation is expected to be about the same as last year, and about 4 percent more Americans will travel overseas than last year.

In the transportation sector, Trans World Airlines predicts 4.4 percent increase in airline passenger miles and 11 percent increase in passenger revenue. Deregulation of the intercity bus sector clouds the outlook for 1983, although increased competition will be created by new opportunities to enter the marketplace. The rail passenger carrier, Amtrak, predicts a 10 percent growth in ridership.

In the hospitality sector, an 8 percent increase in foodservice sales is expected in 1983. The lodging sector anticipates a 2.6 percent increase in occupancy over 1982, with sales up 11 percent.

The 1983 Outlook for Travel and Tourism also includes new approaches to travel marketing in the coming recovery, suggestions for competing in a growing competitive climate, developments in the cruise and attractions industries and travel agency trade, and the projected path for the U.S. economy in 1983.

The report, over 200 pages of charts and text, is being sent to members of the Data Center and is available to others for $70.00 prepaid from the U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. # #

STATE TRAVEL DEVELOPMENT BUDGETS SHOW LITTLE GROWTH

Tourism development offices in 45 states plan to spend $42 million for travel advertising in 1982-83, according to the 1982-83 Survey of State Travel Offices released today by the U.S. Travel Data Center.

The survey reports a 0.6-percent decline from the prior year's advertising allocations. The average state will devote more than $937,700 to advertising, over one-third of the average total promotion and development budget.

(See BUDGETS, page 3)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

JANUARY TRAVEL PRICES INCREASE MODERATELY

Following three consecutive monthly decreases, the cost of travel, as measured by the U.S. Travel Data Center's Travel Price Index (TPI), rose 0.5 percent in January 1983, up from the 0.9 percent decline registered in December.

For comparison, the Consumer Price Index increased 0.2 percent on a seasonally unadjusted basis in January.

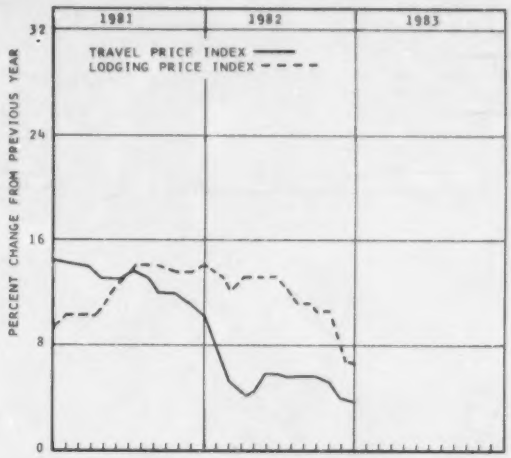
The TPI, which measures changes in the seasonally unadjusted cost of lodging, food, transportation and other goods and services purchased by Americans while traveling away from home in this country, stood at 341.1 in January (1967=100).

The cost of lodging while out of town posted the largest increase for the month, 2.6 percent, followed by intercity bus fares, up 1.1 percent from December.

Gasoline prices declined 2.5 percent, the sixth consecutive month gasoline prices have fallen. The cost of incidental purchases dropped 0.4 percent, while taxicab fares showed no change.

The TPI has increased 3.4 percent since January 1982, while the CPI is up 3.8 percent during the same period. Intercity rail fares are up 10.6 percent from a year ago to lead all TPI components.

Gasoline prices are actually 8.4 percent below last January's level, while taxicab fares have increased only 1.6 percent. # #



LODGING PRICE INCREASES CONTINUE TO MODERATE

Monthly and Annual Rates of Change in the Travel Price Index and Components, January, 1983

TPI Component	Monthly Percent Change December, 1982 to January, 1983	Annual Percent Change January, 1982 to January, 1983
Transportation	-0.7	0.4
Airline Fares	0.9	9.8
Intercity Bus Fares	1.1	3.9
Intercity Train Fares	0.1	10.6
Taxicab Fares	0.0	1.6
Gasoline	-2.5	-8.4
Lodging	2.6	6.6
Food Away From Home	0.6	4.9
Entertainment Services	1.0	6.7
Incidentals	-0.4	3.4
TRAVEL PRICE INDEX	0.5	3.4
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	0.2	3.8

Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

TRAVEL PRINTOUT is published monthly by the U.S. Travel Data Center, the national non-profit center for travel and tourism research, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone number, (202) 293-1040. Dr. Douglas C. Frechtling, Director. Ida Simmons, Editor. TRAVEL PRINTOUT reports on the results of Data Center projects, national travel research conducted by other respected organizations, and trends in the U.S. travel industry. Subscriptions are available for $45 per year, U.S., Canada, and Mexico; other foreign countries, $55 per year, payable in U.S. funds only. TRAVEL PRINTOUT is supported by a grant from the Travel Industry Association of America.
Application to mail at 2nd Class postage rates pending at Washington, D.C. Postmaster: Send address changes to U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

BRIEFS

The number of intercity bus passenger-miles in October was 2.5 billion. This figure was unavailable at presstime for the January issue.

# #

The U.S. Travel Data Center's second annual Summer Vacation Travel Seminar will be held in May. Further details will be included in the April issue of Travel Printout. # #

BUDGETS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

States plan to spend a total of $130 million on all travel and tourism development programs in 1982-83, 4 percent more than the previous year. For the first time, the average state travel development budget tops $2.6 million.

Not all states are sharing in travel development budget growth. Eleven states will spend less than during the previous fiscal year, while 35 will spend more.

"However," Data Center director, Dr. Douglas Frechtling, commented, "when we conducted the first Survey of State Travel Offices in 1973, the average state/territorial travel promotion budget was $853,000. In ten years, that figure has more than tripled."

New York leads all states and territories with a travel development budget of $12.1 million. Four other states will spend more than $5 million during 1982-83. Of all the states, the state of Kansas will spend the least on travel development: $366,350.

The Survey of State Travel Offices, 1982-83 is the tenth annual report on the budgets, advertising, and programs of the state and U.S. territory tourism development agencies. The 100-page report is being sent to members of the U.S. Travel Data Center and is available to others for $50.00 prepaid from the U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

This study was supported by a grant from the Travel Industry Association of America. # #

DECEMBER TRAVEL RETURNS TO 1981 LEVELS

After several months of depressed travel activity, rising consumer confidence and hopes of a recovery boosted vacation travel 7 percent in December 1982, according to the U.S. Travel Data Center's National Travel Survey.

The monthly telephone survey conducted in January reported trips for all purposes, however, were still 3 percent below year-earlier levels. Total travel has improved since November, when total person-trips fell 16 percent below the 1981 level. (A person-trip is recorded each time a person goes on a trip 100 miles or more away from home.)

Round-trip distances fell about 100 miles per trip and durations fell slightly, although business/convention and air trips were significantly longer than in December of 1981.

Business and convention travel has returned to levels recorded in 1981, suggesting that the detrimental effects of recession are continuing to abate.

Falling gasoline prices and a renewed interest in pleasure and vacation travel put many Americans back on the road in December, as travel by automobile, truck or recreational vehicle rose 8 percent.

Vacation travel intentions have also returned to year-earlier levels. Thirty-nine percent of the public plans to take a vacation trip within the next six months, according to the survey, up from 35 percent in the previous monthly survey.

The National Travel Survey is a monthly telephone survey of over 1,400 American adults. Results are projectable to the total adult population.

The first monthly report for 1983 will be released soon. To receive this and other reports as released, contact Suzanne D. Cook, assistant director, U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

A note to subscribers: The closing date for adding questions to the April wave of the National Travel Survey is March 21, 1983. # #

States comprising the travel regions:

NEW ENGLAND: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont. EASTERN GATEWAY: New York, New Jersey. GEORGE WASHINGTON COUNTRY: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia. SOUTH: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee. GREAT LAKES COUNTRY: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin. MOUNTAIN WEST: Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming. FRONTIER WEST: Arizona, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas. FAR WEST: Alaska, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington. THE ISLANDS: American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands.

CURRENT TRAVEL INDICATORS	December, 1982	% Change from November, 1982	% Change from December, 1981	Year-to-date % Change 1982/1981
Establishment receipts or retail sales[1]				
Eating and drinking places	$9,046 million	-0.1	14.8	10.0
Gasoline service stations	$8,028 million	-2.2	-5.8	-3.8
Commercial lodging demand				
Hotel/motel occupancy rate[2]	49.1 percent	-17.2	-4.1	-4.6
Airline passenger traffic[3]				
Domestic revenue passenger-miles	15.0 billion	11.1	5.2	3.8
International revenue passenger-miles	3.3 billion	9.1	-3.8	-3.7
Bus passenger traffic[4]				
Intercity bus passenger-miles	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Highway traffic volume[5]				
Rural arterial vehicle-miles	33.4 billion	-0.5	3.7	2.0
Rail passenger traffic[6]				
Amtrak passenger-miles	344.8 million	29.1	-9.9	-11.5
Travel Price Index[7]	339.3	-0.9	3.8	5.5
U.S. resident travel[8]				
Total person-trips	93.9 million	10.7	-2.7	-7.2
Vacation person-trips	61.8 million	26.6	7.1	-9.5
Public use of National Parks[9]				
Visits	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Overnight stays	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Foreign arrivals in U.S.[10]				
From overseas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
From Canada	538,697	-9.1	1.2	-6.2
U.S. citizen departures[10]				
To overseas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
To Canada	418,438	0.4	2.9	-3.9
Domestic demand for motor gasoline[11]				
Barrels per day	6,239 thousand	-4.9	-6.6	-1.2

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for seasonal variation and trading day differences. Source: Bureau of the Census. [2]Source: Laventhol and Horwath, seasonally adjusted. [3]Preliminary; U.S. scheduled service air carriers. Source: Civil Aeronautics Board. [4]All carriers regular route and charter service. Source: American Bus Association. [5]Source: Federal Highway Administration. [6]Source: National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). [7]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and Bureau of Labor Statistics. [8]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center. [9]Preliminary; unadjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service. [10]Source: U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration and Nettelton Travel Research Center. [11]Preliminary; Source: U.S. Department of Energy.

U.S. Travel Data Center

1899
L Street
Northwest
Washington, D.C.
20036
(202) 293-1040

SECOND CLASS
POSTAGE
PENDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

March, 1983

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

00072 TDC 8306
Jeanne Long, SRI A-E
Congressional Information Service
4520 East West Highway, #800
Bethesda, MD 20814

5/23 R9375-1 A

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

U.S. Travel Data Center

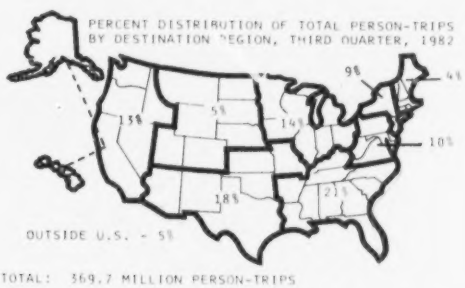
April, 1983 Volume 12, Number 4

TRAVEL REBOUNDS IN THIRD QUARTER, 1982

Following declines in the first two quarters of 1982, travel activity rebounded in the third quarter and increased one percent over the same time of the previous year, according to the 1982 National Travel Survey Third Quarter Report released today by the U.S. Travel Data Center.

Despite continuing weakness in the economy, Americans took 370 million person-trips in third quarter of 1982, traditionally the most popular quarter for travel in the U.S. (A person-trip is recorded each time a person goes on a trip 100 miles or more away from home.)

The report, based on monthly telephone interviews with over 1400 adult Americans, showed a 1 percent increase in travel by auto/truck/RV, while person-trips by air declined 2 percent. Business and convention travel rose 21 percent over the year-earlier mark. More visits to friends and relatives caused an increase in pleasure travel, but vacation travel fell 5 percent for the quarter.



Although it continued to show a small decline in visitation, The South remained the number one destination of travlers this quarter.

As in the second quarter, Americans traveled in slightly larger parties and relied more on the hospitality of friends and relatives for overnight accommodations. The average distance of trips fell slightly, and durations fell from an average of 5 nights to 4.7 nights per trip.

Not surprisingly, the growth in travel this quarter was due almost exclusively to an increase in travel among upper income groups. Those with annual household incomes of $20,000 or more reported 10 percent more person-trips than one year before.

The 1982 National Travel Survey Third Quarter Report includes over 100 pages of tables, charts, analysis and comparisons with 1981 and is being sent to members of the U.S. Travel Data Center. It is available to others for $60.00 prepaid from the U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. # #

SUMMER FORECAST TO BE PRESENTED MAY 12

The outlook for summer vacation travel will be unveiled at a press conference called by the U.S. Travel Data Center at 9:30 a.m. on May 12 at the Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The summer travel forecast will cover the anticipated performance of individual travel markets in the June - August period of 1983 and examine travel patterns of last summer.

The summer forecast presented at the press conference will be published in the 1983 Outlook for Summer Travel: A Guide to Vacation Markets. This report is being sent to full members of the Data Center and is available after May 12 to limited members and others for $55.00 prepaid from the U.S. Travel Data Center.

Full members of the Data Center are invited to attend the press conference free of charge. For reservations, contact Timmy Peay, registration coordinator, at 202/293-1040. # #

TRAVEL PRICES DROP SHARPLY IN FEBRUARY

Travel prices in the U.S. posted the second largest decline on record in February 1983, according to the U.S. Travel Data Center's Travel Price Index (TPI).

The cost of travel fell 0.7 percent, compared to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which showed no change on a seasonally unadjusted basis in the same month.

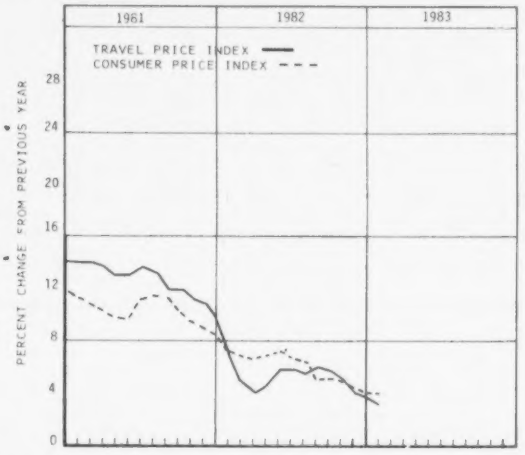
Gasoline prices dropped 3.4 percent, and airline fares fell 1.6 percent to trigger the large decline in overall travel prices.

The TPI, which measures changes in the seasonally unadjusted cost of lodging, food, transportation and other goods and services purchased by Americans traveling away from home in this country stood at 338.8 in February (1967=100).

In contrast to the overall decline, the cost of lodging while out of town rose 0.8 percent, the largest increase among TPI components.

The TPI has increased only 2.4 percent since February 1982, the smallest annual increase in nearly a decade, while the CPI has increased 3.5 percent since last February. Gasoline prices have fallen 9.9 percent during the past twelve months.

Intercity rail fares showed the largest increase during the past year, 12.0 percent. # #



TRAVEL PRICE INCREASES CONTINUE TO FALL BELOW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Monthly and Annual Rates of Change in the Travel Price Index and Components, February, 1983

TPI Component	Monthly Percent Change January, 1983 to February, 1983	Annual Percent Change February, 1982 to February, 1983
Transportation	-2.3	-1.5
Airline Fares	-1.6	6.9
Intercity Bus Fares	0.5	4.9
Intercity Train Fares	0.0	12.0
Taxicab Fares	0.1	1.5
Gasoline	-3.4	-9.9
Lodging	0.8	5.8
Food Away From Home	0.2	4.6
Entertainment Services	0.5	6.4
Incidentals	0.7	3.4
TRAVEL PRICE INDEX	-0.7	2.4
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	0.0	3.5

Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

TRAVEL PRINTOUT is published monthly by the U.S. Travel Data Center, the national non-profit center for travel and tourism research, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone number, (202) 293-1040. Dr. Douglas C. Frechtling, Director. Ida Simmons, Editor. TRAVEL PRINTOUT reports on the results of Data Center projects, national travel research conducted by other respected organizations, and trends in the U.S. travel industry. Subscriptions are available for $45 per year, U.S., Canada, and Mexico; other foreign countries, $55 per year, payable in U.S. funds only. TRAVEL PRINTOUT is supported by a grant from the Travel Industry Association of America.
Application to mail at 2nd Class postage rates pending at Washington, D.C. Postmaster: Send address changes to U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

TRAVEL INCREASES IN JANUARY

Americans responded to encouraging reports of economic recovery by increasing their travel away from home in January 1983, according to the U.S. Travel Data Center's National Travel Survey released today.

The monthly telephone survey reported 59 million person-trips were taken in January, 6 percent more than one year before. (A person-trip is recorded each time a person goes on a trip 100 miles or more away from home.)

Declining gasoline prices stimulated an 11 percent increase in auto/truck/RV travel. # #

27TH BIG PICTURE RELEASED

The 27th annual edition of the Travel Industry World Yearbook, The Big Picture, released last month, reports that in 1981 about 17 percent of U.S. hotel/motel occupancy was attributed to foreign visitors. A significant part of the decline in hotel/motel occupancies in 1982 and declines in visits to travel attractions and resorts was the result of the drop in foreign tourists.

The Big Picture provides tourism industry information for 222 cities, states and countries and political and economic analyses to help readers determine future prospects for travel growth in both the U.S. and the world. It is available for $46 plus a $3 mailing charge from Child Waters, Inc., 516 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10036. # #

GASOLINE TAX INCREASE TO HAVE NEGLIGIBLE EFFECT

The five-cent-a-gallon increase in the federal excise tax on gasoline effective April 1, 1983, will have no measurable effect on travel away from home, the U.S. Travel Data Center predicted today. The increase from four to nine cents a gallon will raise federal gasoline excise tax receipts by $5.5 billion on an annual basis. Americans traveling away from home for pleasure and other purposes will spend $640 million a year more as a result of the increase.

This increase will boost the cost of domestic travel by less than one-half of one percent, the Data Center concludes. The increased cost of U.S. auto/truck/RV travel away from home will be less than four percent. Dr. Douglas C. Frechtling, director of the Data Center, noted, "Gasoline prices have fallen in 19 of the last 22 months, so it is unlikely consumers will take much note when making travel plans." # #

VISITOR VOLUME AT NATIONAL PARKS

Region	December, 1982 visits[1] (thousands)	Change from November, 1982 (percent)	Change from December, 1981 (percent)	1982/81 Year-to date (percent)
New England	247.5	-62.2%	33.3%	-5.0%
Eastern Gateway	286.3	-30.5	24.7	2.6
G. Washington Country	6,547.1	-11.0	3.6	*
The South	5,474.2	-17.5	4.2	1.2
Great Lakes Country	114.5	-26.1	16.6	3.5
Mountain West	394.3	-35.2	-12.9	-4.2
Frontier West	934.9	-23.1	-1.7	24.1
Far West	2,466.6	-10.4	6.5	-1.4
The Islands	545.0	-2.0	-9.4	15.8
TOTAL	17,010.4	-16.6%	3.7%	3.9%

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service.
*Less than 0.5 percent.

States comprising the travel regions:

NEW ENGLAND: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont. EASTERN GATEWAY: New York, New Jersey. GEORGE WASHINGTON COUNTRY: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia. SOUTH: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee. GREAT LAKES COUNTRY: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin. MOUNTAIN WEST: Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming. FRONTIER WEST: Arizona, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas. FAR WEST: Alaska, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington. THE ISLANDS: American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands.

CURRENT TRAVEL INDICATORS	January, 1983	% Change from December, 1982	% Change from January, 1982	Year-to-date % Change 1983/1982
Establishment receipts or retail sales[1]				
Eating and drinking places	$9,138 million	2.2	14.6	14.6
Gasoline service stations	$7,998 million	-0.9	-7.3	-7.3
Commercial lodging demand				
Hotel/motel occupancy rate[2]	56.1 percent	14.3	-2.3	-2.3
Airline passenger traffic[3]				
Domestic revenue passenger-miles	15.0 billion	-1.1	7.5	7.5
International revenue passenger-miles	3.4 billion	1.7	-3.5	-3.5
Bus passenger traffic[4]				
Intercity bus passenger-miles	1.5 billion	-25.0	7.1	7.1
Highway traffic volume[5]				
Rural arterial vehicle-miles	29.4 billion	-10.0	8.5	8.5
Rail passenger traffic[6]				
Amtrak passenger-miles	249.3 million	-27.7	-21.8	-21.8
Travel Price Index[7]	341.1	0.5	3.4	3.4
U.S. resident travel[8]				
Total person-trips	59.0 million	-37.2	6.3	6.3
Vacation person-trips	32.8 million	-49.5	22.4	22.4
Public use of National Parks[9]				
Visits	8,605,318	-8.0	17.0	17.0
Overnight stays	373,306	16.2	10.0	10.0
Foreign arrivals in U.S.[10]				
From overseas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
From Canada	681,604	26.5	3.9	3.9
U.S. citizen departures[10]				
To overseas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
To Canada	288,058	-31.2	4.0	4.0
Domestic demand for motor gasoline[11]				
Barrels per day	5,963 thousand	-8.9	0.7	0.7

[1]Preliminary; adjusted for seasonal variation and trading day differences. Source: Bureau of the Census. [2]Source: Laventhol and Horwath, seasonally adjusted. [3]Preliminary; U.S. scheduled service air carriers. Source: Civil Aeronautics Board. [4]All carriers regular route and charter service. Source: American Bus Association. [5]Source: Federal Highway Administration. [6]Source: National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). [7]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and Bureau of Labor Statistics. [8]Source: U.S. Travel Data Center. [9]Preliminary; unadjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service. [10]Source: U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration and Nettelton Travel Research Center. [11]Preliminary; Source: U.S. Department of Energy.

U.S. Travel Data Center

1899
L Street
Northwest
Washington, D.C.
20036
(202) 293-1040

SECOND CLASS
POSTAGE
PENDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 1983

TRAVEL PRINTOUT

Research News for the U.S. Travel Industry

00072 TDC 8306
Jeanne Long, SRI A-E
Congressional Information Service
4520 East West Highway, #800
Bethesda, MD 20814